

THE MORNING NEWS

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ACEC New York



Fiesta Rotaria- still Aruba's favorite place to shop, play, win and be entertained

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Aruba awarded Sam Schwartz Diamond Award for Urban Renovation and Streetcar

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MH370 search: Pinger locator to be towed behind Ocean Shield



This pinger locator has been fitted to Australian Navy ship Ocean Shield to try to find the black box.

PERTH -- An Australian Navy vessel has been equipped with two different devices to help locate the flight data recorders from missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, as a US navy captain says finding surface debris remains a "critical" first step.

The US has provided spe-

cialist equipment and operators for the Ocean Shield vessel. Captain Mark Matthews from the US Navy says the first device is a towed pinger locator, which listens for acoustic emissions from the flight data recorders, and the second is an underwater vehicle.

Aruba nominated for prestigious zoover award

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Skepticism as Cuba OKs law to lure foreign investors

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Cornelie Sellali Bois-Blanc: First indigenous female mayor in French Guiana

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Aruba awarded Sam Schwartz Diamond Award for Urban Renovation and Streetcar

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ORANJESTAD -- The American Association of Engineering Companies (ACEC) has awarded Aruba the distinctive "Sam Schwartz Engineering" award. Every year ACEC holds a competition

for their Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA). This is to honor exemplary achievements of their projects around the world. Since 1967 member companies have been nominating projects and innovative researches which can be categorized as Academic Awards (Oscars) of the engineering industry.

Sam Schwartz Engineering was in charge as Program Advisor for the planning and urban design of Aruba's Main

Street. They offered advice during the design, public tender and construction of the rails. They also provided advice regarding the revision of the specifications and public tender of the tram, as well as the construction and implementation of the tram itself.

EEA has 12 different categories. A project first must compete statewide and after winning it will become a finalist for the national award. A panel of 25 to 30 judges represents the sector as well as the government, universities and the media. They spend three days evaluating and categorizing according to excellence.

The panel chooses 24 winners of the Top Award, con-

sisting of 16 Honor Awards and 8 Grand Awards. The Aruba Tram has been recognized by ACEC with the "Diamond Award."

The presentation of the award will take place during the ACEC Annual Gala Excellence Award in Engineering. This event has become a very important one in the engineering industry. The Gala Black Tie event attracts over 600 members and invitees, national leaders of engineering, representatives of Congress and of the American government.

This year's event took place on Saturday, March 29th in the prestigious Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

John Reinhardt of Sam Schwartz impressed with Aruba



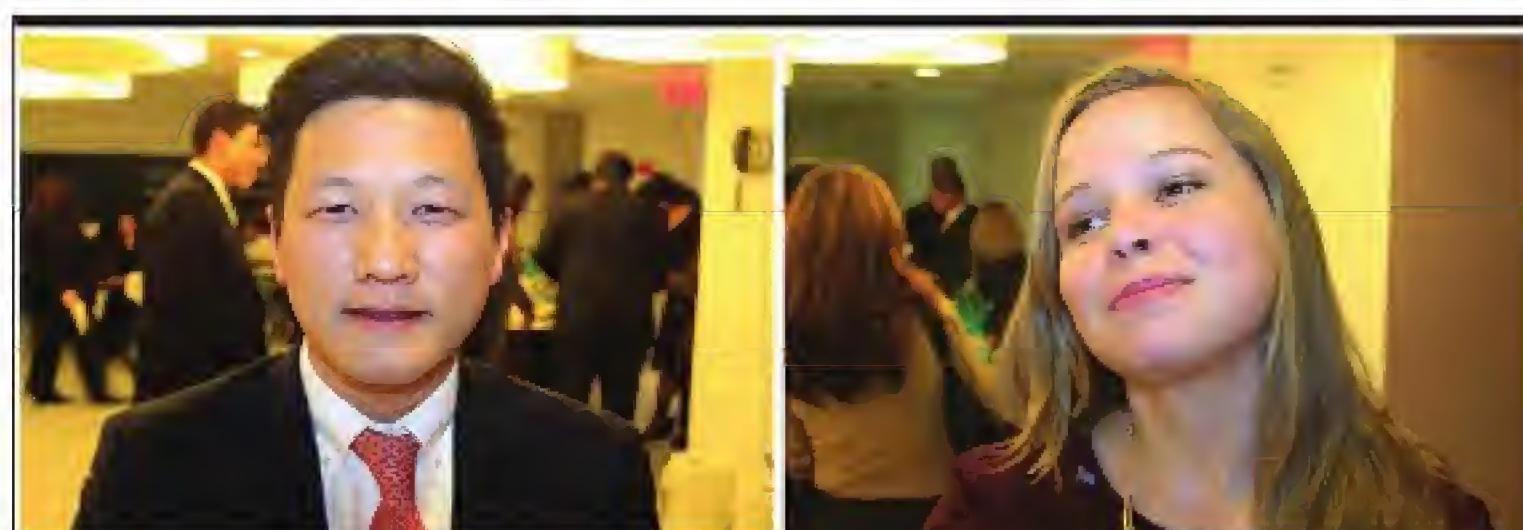
ORANJESTAD -- John Reinhardt as part of the delegation of the Sam Schwartz Engineering company is expected on our island. Sam Schwartz is the company that fabricated Aruba's "Streetcar."

Reinhardt, an Urban Planner, is well known on Aruba. He participated in seminars organized on Aruba under the theme of Urban Renewal back in 2010.

Reinhardt is expected here to see how the changes are functioning and the results from these up to the present. Reinhardt expressed... "it is very impressive to see how fast Aruba has transformed her public spaces, the transportation, and the extraordinary amount of work done during three years."

In New York, Reinhardt indicated that Aruba has done a tremendous job in removing asphalt and concrete to convert areas into green public areas that people enjoy

Prime Minister meets Aruban professional and student intern



ORANJESTAD -- During his visit to New York this past week, the Aruban Prime Minister, Mike Eman, had the opportunity of meeting with various Arubans living and working in New York. One of those with whom he met was Dustin Ling. Ling is Director of Global Public Sector Corporation Investment at City Bank. Ling has been working

for the past 12 years at City bank. In a conversation with Mr. Ling, he indicated that if Aruba wants to develop its financial sector, it must do so in an aggressive manner under the international platform, including Aruba's people and culture.

With respect to Aruba's vision, Ling said, I am very proud to learn of the lectures

given by the Prime Minister, talking about what Aruba is doing. I deal with a lot of countries, and I see that Aruba, although a very small island is doing a lot of innovations."

Dustin Ling went to the US to study Finance & Marketing at the University of Miami in 1998. At the end of his studies he was incorpo-

rated into the Management Trainee Program and eventually was contracted by City Bank.

One of those present at the encounter in New York was student, Krista Oplaat. Krista is studying Science Communication at the University of Amsterdam and is doing her internship at World Science Festival in New York. She expressed her admiration for the work that Aruba is doing in the area of alternative energy and sustainable management. She is convinced that this will have a positive impact on the name of Aruba in New York.

Oplaat is considering returning to Aruba after completing her turn of experiences abroad.

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Aruba nominated for prestigious zoover award

ORANJESTAD -- Since 2009 they have been awarding the Zoover Award in Holland to the most popular travel organizations. This year they added 27 different categories, among them, Vacation/Travel outside of Europe, for which Aruba has been nominated.

The nomination for the popular Zoover Award is very prestigious and is a title of high value for the travel world.

Tirso Tromp, Area Director for Aruba Tourism Authority in Europe, indicated in a recent interview: ... "we are very proud of this nomination. Zoover is a very important indicator for the travel world. The year 2013 was a record year for Aruba. Aruba welcomed more than 1 million tourists from all over the world, which was an increase of 6% compared to 2012. It is for this reason that we hope to win the Zoover



award, to show that Aruba is a quality and lovely destination."

Zoover is an evaluation site managed on a commercial basis. Zoover does not do travel reservations. It does advertise for tour operators. They also maintain a social network called MyZoover. On this site users can win points by adding photos, video or evaluations. The website also allows travelers to do evaluations, share criticism of hotel accommodations and of destinations and attractions.

ATA is asking all hospitality and tourism sectors, tourists and family, to go to the website and vote for Aruba. Aruba wants to collect as many votes as possible so that we can be awarded the prestigious Zoover Award. Everyone can vote until the 8th of April. To vote, one must go to www.zooverawards.nl/stemmen/groep/Aruba. The voting results will be published on April 17 on the above website. Let's all vote for Auba!

Arubian Soul Concert in Cas Di Cultura

ORANJESTAD - That Aruba has many local musical talents is known under the public, especially during Carnival season when all these artists are featured on the giant bandwagons. But what about featuring local musicians in a collaboration album? And providing them a proper platform such as our local theatre?

That is what Arubian Soul is all about. Tuesday, April 1, Cas di Cultura will host the first ever Arubian Soul concert which will showcase the artists that have worked on the eponymous album produced with the financial support of Unoca.

Continued on page 4

Early Bird Menu
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Appetizers: Stuffed Avocado, Escargots Bourguignon, (choose one) Fruits of the Seven Seas, Choices of Soups

Entrees: Breaded Grouper topped with coconut shrimps served with rice and vegetables
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Aruba says thank you Loyal visitors Bob and Gloria Lorenz honored

Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) honored Bob and Gloria Lorenz from Illinois as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The event, which commemorates their 10th consecutive visit to the island, was held at the Marriott Ocean Club.

Picture shows the honorees together with Marouska Heyliger from ATA and Erwin Noguera, General Manager of the Marriott Ocean Club.



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Need help selecting a nice wine?

Sweet Pepper staffers are ready to help!



NOORD -- Always seeking to improve the quality of their service, the proprietors of Sweet Pepper restaurant located within the Caribbean Palm Villas adjacent to Palm Beach, Harold and Anky Paesch, welcomed representatives of Aruba Trading Company's wine and spirits department to educate their staffers on some of the fine wines they carry on their menu.

"Selecting a wine that will particularly complement, even enhance a dish, is important for restaurant staff to know," commented ATC representative Kavey Yarzagaray. Wine and Spirits Manager Diego Claderon heartily agrees and both enjoyed sharing their knowledge and passion for fine vintages with the Sweet Pepper owners and crew on Friday afternoon, March 28.

The first in a series of such sessions with the restaurant's staff focused on two Argentinean vintages of the Trivento Tribu label, a Cabernet Sauvignon and a Malbec. These red wines are full flavored, hearty wines that best compliment beef main dishes, and are also quite appropriate for pastas with meat or sausage, a staple of the Sweet Pepper menu, along with antipastos. Kavey did advise to select the Cabernet with dishes with strong tomato sauces, as the acidity of the Malbec might clash, but the Cabernet should prove an excellent choice."

The restaurant provided a beautiful antipasto spread for its staff for the wine tasting, of items that are particularly well paired with such wines. These fine quality Trivento labels are available only in restaurants, explained Kavey, "They are most definitely not what we

would categorize as "supermarket wines."

The fine points of over and under tones of a select vintage, the tannic elements and acidic qualities, and how they offset the dishes they are paired with, were entertaining explained to the Sweet Pepper staff as they swirled, sniffed and sipped. A nibble of Italian sausage, cheese, or marinated olives allowed them to fully comprehend and savor how various elements interacted with the flavor of the food and wines.

Aruba Trading Company is



known as distributors of many fine wine labels, and Sweet Pepper owners were both employees of one of Aruba's most famous gourmet restaurants, Chez Mathilde, for more than a decade. Both are dedicated to the appreciation of fine food and spirits, and Anky and Harold are quite fastidious about the quality of service their wait staff and bartenders can provide. The charming restaurant welcomes its clients to chat with the staff,



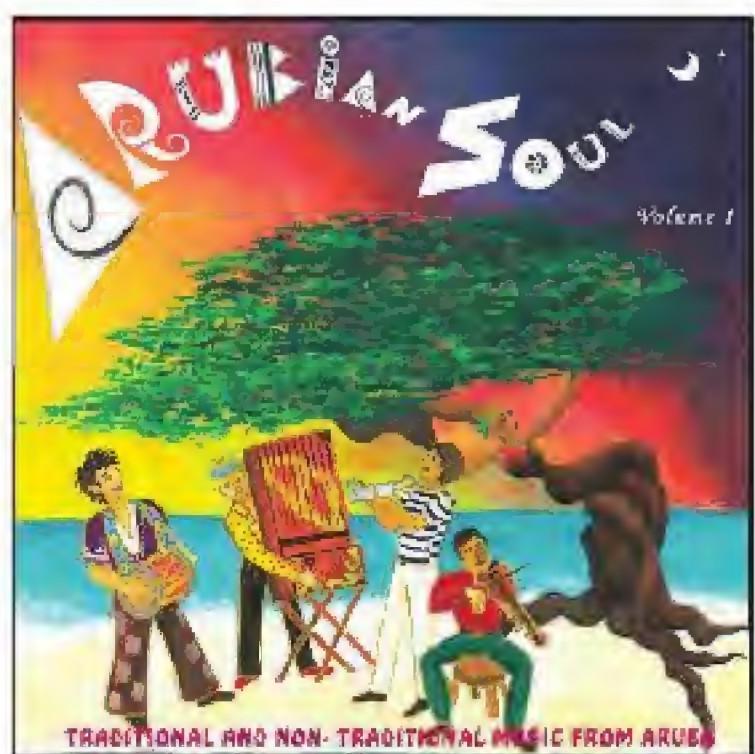
and ask their wine advice, making as they continue to insure they can give an informed answer.

Arubian Soul Concert in Cas Di Cultura

Continued from page 3

Famous local talents such as Michelangelo Koolman (singer), known for his hit song at the moment "Mundo ta un milager" Martin Buitenhof who has done most of the guitar arrangements on the album, Miguel Genser, who is not only famous for his vocal and songwriting skills but he is also the star of the current hit movie "Abo So" playing in local theatres, are just a few of these talents performing this night.

Other musicians featured are Ron Martis performing the song "mi kier sa" Jelizza Croes featured in the Tumba rythmed song "Mihor nos separa", Chantal Quandt featured in the song "Un Bon Muhe" and Ruthjean Landaeta Helder and her husband Rajiv Landaeta will be performing together in the songs "Awe te cos" and the Antillean Waltz "Aruba ta mi cas".



The show is from 8 to 10 p.m. and tickets are available at Cas Di Cultura prior to the concert.

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Fiesta Rotaria-still Aruba's favorite place to shop, play, win and be entertained



ORANJESTAD -- If there is one day on the calendar that islanders of every stripe mark off as the place to be, it is the annual Fiesta Rotaria, the massive, all day fundraising event by the Aruba Chapter of Rotary International. Whether seeking to green up their gardens, fix up their homes, or win some great prizes at the Wheel of Fortune,

tune, they know a fun day is to be had, with free entertainment and great BBQ lunches at bargain prices from the Divi Resorts culinary department. All of this while helping to support island foundations doing very important work with the elderly, youth and handicapped.

Several who tried their luck at the Wheel of Fortune

went home with beautiful new bikes for only 10 Aruban florins, and fabulous toys for under the tree in December for a minimal investment. Dance groups from all over the island, including Club di Movimiento, performed everything from Aruban folkloric to classic ballet and modern dance.

Yesterday was a full day of fun for all the family. The new change of venue proved very easy for parking, and eliminated the terrible traffic jams that often held up vacationers trying to make their way to the airport. All those attending felt the organizers had made a good choice in relocating a little further inland to relieve the congestion the street fair causes on L.G. Smith Boulevard.

Rotary members report they were very pleased with the attendance and support from the many vendors who provided the goods in the various flea markets. The service organization is celebrating their 75th anniversary of establishment of the



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Aruban chapter, and so were very pleased that new loca-

tion and arrangement worked out to everyone's satisfaction.

Rio police storm vast crime-ridden favela near airport

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - More than 1,000 Brazilian police backed by helicopters and naval armored vehicles took over a favela near Rio de Janeiro's international airport yesterday, just 74 days before the World Cup.

The swiftly conducted dawn operation was the latest attempt to drive drug gangs out of the notorious Mare shanty town, a haven for organized crime and one of the city's most dangerous places.

The Mare, close to the airport and home to 130,000 people, is a potential through route for tens of thousands of football fans flying in and out of the city, which will stage seven World Cup matches including the July 13 final.

Members of the feared

Special Police Operations Battalion swarmed through the favela in 15 minutes without facing resistance, while helicopters buzzed overhead.

Police had their weapons trained on the rooftops but apart from a few bars close to the entrance of Mare the labyrinth of narrow streets was empty and dark.

At sunrise police raised a Brazilian flag in the main plaza, and soon after they were giving horseback rides to local supporters in what officials denied was a security effort directly linked to the forthcoming football extravaganza.

The operation, however, was partly orchestrated for the media as police had already last week taken over

part of the favela, making 57 arrests and confiscating drugs and weapons -- 13 more people were detained yesterday.

Rio's security secretariat said 1,180 officers were involved in the operation, backed by at least 14 armored vehicles and four helicopters.

Police seized "large quantities of drugs and weapons" that were hidden near the Olympic Village and a public school, said the GloboNews chain.

According to the intelligence services, drug traffickers who left Mare after the announcement Monday of the planned occupation could come back later, meaning authorities face a long-term battle to keep the volatile area under control.

Thousands of European separatists protest in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Several thousand European separatists, overwhelmingly Flemish but also Catalans, Scots and South Tyroleans, demonstrated in Brussels yesterday for the right to self-determination.

Under a forest of yellow flags emblazoned with black lions, Flemish separatists dominated the procession through the European Union's capital, which marched from Parc du Cinquantenaire near the European Commission's headquarters towards the European Parliament.

The crowd, which marched under a banner proclaiming "Europe, we'll vote for self-determination", num-

bered almost 3,000 people, according to a senior police officer.

Draped in their regional colours -- red and yellow -- the Catalans chanted in their regional language for "independence".

Small groups of Scots, who are due to vote in a referendum on independence from Britain in September, also stood alongside South Tyroleans, Lombards, Corsicans and a handful of Bretons.

The demonstration was organised by the International Commission of European Citizens, an body which represents the main separatist movements in Europe.

MH370 search: Australian aircraft spots four orange objects, described as 'most promising lead'

PERTH -- An Australian Orion aircraft has identified several orange objects in the southern Indian Ocean in what is being described as "the most promising leads" in the search for missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370.

Crew on board the aircraft spotted the objects, each greater than two metres in size, in a five-nautical-mile area within the search zone.

Flight Lieutenant Russell Adams says the objects will now be assessed to determine whether they are related to

the missing airliner

Meanwhile, the Malaysian opposition leader has revealed he has previously met the pilot of flight MH370, Zaharie Ahmad Shah, as he was a member of his party.

There are unconfirmed reports the pilot was in the court when Mr Anwar was sentenced to five years in jail for sodomy, just six hours before the plane departed.

But the opposition leader says that is no reason for him to hijack a plane, and he believes the pilot is innocent of any wrongdoing.

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Ukraine boxer Klitschko drops out of presidential race

KIEV (AFP) - Boxer turned opposition leader Vitali Klitschko on Saturday dropped out of Ukraine's snap presidential polls to help the candidacy of a charismatic tycoon who made a fortune selling chocolates and backs closer Western ties.

The towering sports star's decision leaves the crisis-hit nation of 46 million with two clear frontrunners in the May 25 vote -- business baron Petro Poroshenko and the highly divisive and corruption-stained opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko.

The 42-year-old Klitschko conceded to fellow members of his aptly-named UDAR (Punch) party that he had slipped badly in public approval ratings in the tumultuous weeks following the February 22 ouster of pro-Kremlin president Viktor Yanukovych.

"We have to nominate a single candidate representing the democratic forces," Klitschko told an UDAR party congress. "This has to be a candidate who enjoys the strongest public support. Today, this candidate in my opinion is Petro Poroshenko."

Klitschko added that he planned to run for mayor of Kiev in elections that will be held alongside the presi-



dential polls.

The former heavyweight champion -- a proponent of closer European ties who was stripped of his title belt in December for spending too much time at the barricades instead of the boxing ring -- is a national hero who now leads the third-largest party in parliament.

Klitschko was viewed as the most potent political threat to Yanukovych at the height of the protests and enjoyed the support of more than 20 percent of potential voters in late December.

Some analysts believe that support for Klitschko subsided once Yanukovych left power as voters began to look for other candidates with similar pro-Western leanings but who had more experience in politics and administrative affairs.

First indigenous female mayor in French Guiana



IRACOUBO (AFP) - The new mayor of Paris will not be the only woman to make French history on Sunday. In French Guiana, Cornelie Sellali Bois-Blanc has become the first mayor of Amerindian origin in the overseas department. After being elected with an outright majority in the first round of municipal elections on March 23, the 43-year-old grandmother was inaugurated Sunday as the new mayor of the ethnically mixed commune of Iracoubo. "I am an Amerindian and proud of it, but I am also a Guianese woman and I will represent the entire, diverse population of Iracoubo," she said after her landmark appointment.

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Spanish journalists home after Syria kidnap ordeal

MADRID (AFP) - Two Spanish journalists taken hostage in Syria by an Al-Qaeda-linked group returned smiling to Spain on Sunday to greet their loved ones after six months in captivity.

El Mundo correspondent Javier Espinosa, 49, and freelance photographer Ricardo Garcia Vilanova, 42, landed at a military airbase near Madrid from Turkey.

Looking tired and drawn but happy, they appeared briefly before the cameras at the offices of El Mundo newspaper, Espinosa's employer, and hugged relatives and colleagues.

"Thanks to all those who were worried about us and made it possible for us to come home. As you can see, we are perfectly well," Espinosa said.

They declined to talk about their captivity, however. "I cannot say anything. It is out of our hands," Vilanova said.

El Mundo said the two were "freed and handed over to the Turkish military" before being flown home on a Spanish military jet.



"Pure happiness," wrote Espinosa's girlfriend, the journalist Monica Garcia Prieto, on Twitter early Sunday, without giving further details.

Espinosa, 49, and Vilanova, 42, were seized on September 16 as they tried to cross the Syrian border to Turkey, the latest of scores of journalists captured while covering Syria's civil war.

There was no word on whether any demands were made by their kidnappers or any ransom paid.

El Mundo identified the captors as members of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a jihadist faction in Syria with roots in Al-Qaeda's Iraqi affiliate.

The group has fought against the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria but has also been battling other rebel groups.

The newspaper had kept the kidnapping quiet until December while it contacted the captors via intermediaries. It said at that time that the kidnappers had made no demands.

Award-winning reporter Espinosa has been a Middle East correspondent for El Mundo since 2002 and is based in Beirut.

Like Vilanova, he has covered some of the most dangerous points in the Syrian conflict, including the siege of Homs in February 2012.

EL MUNDO

'Obamacare' sign-ups top 6 million: White House

WASHINGTON (AFP) - More than six million Americans had registered for health insurance under US President Barack Obama's reform by Sunday as Today's Deadline Looms.

The figure exceeds the revised estimate of six million put forward last month by the Congressional Budget Office, which had downgraded its previous sign-up prediction of seven million after a problem-plagued debut for the "Obamacare" federal website.

The online portal allows consumers to shop for plans and register online. The first months of the program, which launched October 1, suffered from disastrous

technical glitches which have since been fixed.

Obama's approval rating has been hard hit by his unpopular health care reform, and Republican candidates have seized on Obamacare as perhaps the key campaign issue of the 2014 mid-term elections.

The controversial new law, opposed by Republican lawmakers as a drastic intrusion of big government into the lives of ordinary citizens, requires most Americans to have health insurance or pay a fine.

But the president has gone on a full-court press in recent weeks to boost enrollment numbers -- particularly among young adults.

Uninsured Americans must begin the sign-up process by March 31, and complete it by April 15, to avoid the penalty.

Officials cited what they described as high volume web visits and phone calls to sign-up help centers as evidence Americans were eager to register now that kinks have been ironed out.

"The president encouraged the navigators and volunteers to redouble their efforts over the next four days and leave no stone unturned in trying to bring affordable health coverage to as many Americans as possible by the March 31 deadline," the White House official said.

Guinea battles to contain Ebola as Senegal closes its border

CONAKRY (AFP) - Guinea raced week end to contain a deadly Ebola epidemic spreading from its southern forests to the capital Conakry, as neighbouring Senegal closed its border.

The European Union pledged 500,000 euros (\$690,000) to fight the contagion, while the Senegalese interior ministry said border crossings to Guinea would be closed "until further notice".

The order affects crossings at Kolda and Kedougou in the south of Senegal which are heavily used by traders, particularly during a weekly market attended by thousands from neighbouring countries.

Eight cases of Ebola have

been confirmed in Conakry, the Guinean health ministry said late Friday, including one fatality.

Across the country, "the total number of suspected cases recorded from January to 28 March 2014 is 111 cases of haemorrhagic fever including 70 deaths ... or a fatality rate of 63 percent," the ministry said in a statement.

Samples taken from 45 of the suspect cases included 19 which tested positive for Ebola.

Most of the cases were recorded in southern Guinea, but the disease has spread to the capital since Wednesday.

Those infected have been put in isolation to prevent the

virus from spreading, while aid organisations have sent dozens of workers to help the poor west African country combat the outbreak of haemorrhagic fever.

The tropical virus -- described in some health publications as a "molecular shark" -- leads to haemorrhagic fever, causing muscle pain, weakness, vomiting, diarrhoea and, in severe cases, organ failure and unstoppable bleeding.

No treatment or vaccine is available, and the Zaire strain detected in Guinea -- first observed 38 years ago in what is today called the Democratic Republic of Congo -- has a 90 percent death rate.



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

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Alternative treatment for cholesterol shows promise

WASHINGTON (AFP) - An experimental treatment has shown promise in lowering bad cholesterol, offering hope for people at risk of heart disease but who cannot tolerate drugs known as statins, researchers said Sunday.

The therapy developed by Amgen pharmaceuticals is known as evolocumab. It is a monoclonal antibody that is injected every couple of weeks or once a month, instead of being taken in a daily pill.

Evolocumab is part of a new class of drugs known as PCSK9 inhibitors, which suppress a gene involved with cholesterol regulation in the liver.

Research from two separate phase III trials released at the American College of Cardiology annual meeting showed it was effective in lowering LDL, or bad cholesterol, with few side effects.

The research showed evolocumab lowered cholesterol further than the only other statin-alternative on the market, ezetimibe.

It also lowered LDL in patients who were already tak-

ing statins, suggesting the approach could be used as an add-on for patients who need big reductions in their cholesterol but left sickened by intensive doses of statins.

About nine in 10 patients taking evolocumab achieved an LDL cholesterol level of under 70 mg/dL, the target for people at high risk for heart disease.

Reducing LDL is important because too much of it can lead to clogged arteries, raising the risk of heart attack and stroke.

However, the Amgen-funded studies only lasted three months, so longer term data is needed to fully probe the treatment's safety and see whether it works to prevent heart disease over time.

The US Food and Drug Administration last month asked pharmaceutical companies Regeneron and Sanofi to assess potential neurocognitive adverse events in their PCSK9 inhibitor, alirocumab, causing jitters among stockholders and raising concerns about the drugs' path to market approval.



Underweight Equally Dangerous As Overweight

-The five-year long research conducted by the Canadian medical researchers, led by Dr Joel Ray has concluded that being underweight is even riskier than being overweight or obese. The fatality rate among the underweight, is 1.8 times greater than people with normal BMI. Those having a BMI of 18.5 or less easily get a lot of complications which lead to death in comparison to people who have a normal BMI between 18.9 and 24.9. The research also reported that people who are obese, with a BMI between 30 and 34.9 increase their chance of death by 1.2 times in comparison to normal people. In case of a severely obese person, who has a BMI of 35 or higher increase his/her chance of death by 1.3 times higher. The study further reported that most of the people who are underweight were heavy on alcohol, involved in drug abuse, were malnourished, chain-smokers, were poor, and had poor mental health or poor self esteem. Dr Joel Ray said that with the highlight being 'obesity', the medical team is obligated to ensure that an epidemic of underweight adults are not created out of lack of awareness that underweight is equally dangerous as being overweight.



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O Restaurant and Lounge: Not only GREAT reviews on TripAdvisor for their food, but outstanding as well for their daily entertainment

We all heard and read about the newest restaurant in Palm Beach on TripAdvisor or in our newspaper a few weeks ago. Reviews on TripAdvisor not only ranked them 23 out of 119 restaurants in Palm Beach in record time for their high quality and succulent meals, but also for their entertainment by means of Aruba's leading entrepreneur and professional performing artist Mr. Edjean Semeleer who also happens to be one of the owners of O Restaurant & Lounge. Edjean Semeleer known and beloved on the island for his charm and strong devotion for Aruba's culture, decided to go a little bit further in what is promoting Aruba and its heritage on the next level by opening his own restaurant where he can entertain his guests on a daily basis. We interviewed Edjean and we asked him what he likes most about this business and he replied "Definitely singing and interacting with our customers. It's definitely an amazing experience to get to know new people everyday who becomes fast friends of ours. Of course the perks of being a restaurant owner also is that you get to be the first that gets to try the dishes. Who wouldn't want that?". He finds it a surreal experience to see happy faces every day not only for the food they are serving but also for the gratitude he receives from guests visiting the restaurant. "There are a lot of restaurants out there with great food, but what you cannot find elsewhere on Aruba, and rarely in the world, is a restaurant where the owner is the entertainment and also walks around talking to his guests every single night. To me it is like having a huge house, with interesting guests every day with whom I can (sometimes) sit and have a chat with, talking about myself, my passion, Aruba and of course learn from our guests where they are from, what they do and most important of all why they chose Aruba. The best days at the restaurant are those when there is any type of celebration, we love singing "happy birthday" to our guests and see their reaction, we have had anniversaries, birthdays and once even a group celebrating "being alive" (that was absolutely awesome)". O Restaurant and Lounge is open daily from 5PM with their Early Bird Special which includes a three course meal for just 24.95 till 7PM and they are open 'till 11PM for their international menu that consists of fresh fish either the whole red snapper or by filet, steaks, pastas, poultry, vegetarian and burgers too. If you want off the chain meals and an unforgettable dining experience, visit O Restaurant and Lounge situated at the Paseo Herencia Mall, second floor, next to the elevator or escalator. The owners made it very accessible for guests to make reservation, you can either go to your resort's concierge or call 585 4161, email at oaruba@gmail.com or send us a message via TripAdvisor or facebook by searching O Restaurant and Lounge. Although we do recommend reservation you can also drop by and see if there are any free tables for the night.



Experts create intelligent 'plaster' to monitor patients

PARIS (AFP) - Medical engineers said Sunday they had created a device the size of a plaster which can monitor patients by tracking their muscle activity before administering their medication.

Methods for monitoring so-called "movement disorders" such as epilepsy and Parkinson's disease have traditionally included video recordings or wearable devices, but these tend to be bulky and inflexible.

The new gadget, which is worn on the skin, looks like a Band-Aid but uses nanotechnology -- in which building blocks as small as atoms and molecules are harnessed to bypass problems of bulkiness and stiffness-- to monitor the patient.

Scientists have long hoped to create an unobtrusive device able to capture and store medical information as well as administer drugs in response to the data.

This has proved difficult due to the large amount of onboard electronics and storage space required, high power consumption, and the lack of a mechanism for delivering medicine via the skin.

But although monitoring helps to track disease progression and allows better

treatment, until now the electronics used in the devices have been hard and brittle, and not ideal for an on-the-skin device.

But the team from South Korea and the United States said they had found the solution in nanomaterials, creating a flexible and stretchable device that resembles an adhesive plaster, about one millimetre (0.04 inches) thick.

Still a prototype, the gadget comprises multiple layers of ultrathin nanomembranes and nanoparticles, the creators wrote in the journal *Nature Nanotechnology*.

The study showed that when worn on the wrist of a patient, the patch could measure and record muscle activity.

The recorded data then triggered the release, with the aid of a wafer-thin internal heater, of drugs stored inside the nanoparticles.

A temperature sensor made of silicon nanomembranes monitored the skin temperature to prevent burns during drug delivery.

Dae-Hyeong Kim from the Center for Nanoparticle Research in Seoul said that the device currently needs a microprocessor from an external computer, which could be in a wristwatch, to which it is attached with thin wires.

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BEST PRICES ON THE ISLAND

Lights out for Earth Hour's global crowdfunding call

NEW YORK (AFP) - Iconic landmarks around the world were plunged into darkness Saturday as lights went out in thousands of places as part of a global fundraising drive for local environmental projects.

New York's Empire State Building, the ancient Acropolis in Athens, Rio's Christ the Redeemer statue and Sydney's Opera House were among those blacked out for 60 minutes at 8:30 pm local time for the annual Earth Hour.

The world's tallest building, Dubai's 200-story Burj Khalifa also joined the action, which was to include some 7,000 cities and towns in 150 countries by the time the event covers all the planet's time zones.

In New York, the twinkling neon billboards of Times Square went dark along with the Empire State.

Swaths of private buildings in Manhattan also took part, a rarity in the city that famously never sleeps.

At the Vatican, before St. Peter's Basilica plunged into darkness, dozens of people shouted out a countdown, including a group of children dressed as Spider-Man -- the first ever superhero ambassa-



The world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, went dark for sixty minutes to take part in Earth Hour Saturday.

dor for the campaign.

In Paris, a nine-year-old "mini Spider-Man" did the honors at the Eiffel Tower. However, since the tower that symbolizes the City of Light was still open to visitors, its spectacular dancing lights were idled five minutes for security reasons.

In Cape Town, South Africa -- WWF's 2014 Earth Hour capital -- floodlights powered by energy from a nearby windfarm were trained on Table Mountain in order to be switched off for the observance.

Earth Hour, launched in

Sydney in 2007, partnered with payment giant PayPal to allow donors to contribute to specific projects from Russia and India to Canada and Indonesia using Asian fundraising site Crowdonomic.

Earth Hour chief executive Andy Ridley said the event had moved beyond symbolism to concrete action.

But the stunt has drawn criticism, including from Danish political scientist Bjorn Lomborg who argues it does little for the real problem of global warming and diverts resources from other problems.



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US food prices expected to rise significantly in 2014

SAN FRANCISCO -- AFP photo shows containers of milk displayed at Cal-Mart Grocery in San Francisco, California. Food prices are on the rise and expected to keep edging up throughout the year as the drought and other factors have impacted the availability and cost of groceries. Prices are rising for a range of food staples, from meat and pork to fruits and vegetables, squeezing consumers still struggling with modest wage gains.



Qatar approves record \$62 bn budget

DOHA (AFP) - Gas-rich Qatar, pushing ahead with a massive infrastructure drive in preparation for hosting the 2022 football World Cup, yesterday unveiled a record budget of almost \$62 billion.

The budget of 225.7 billion riyals (\$61.98 billion) for the 2014-2015 fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31 and is based on an oil price of \$65 per barrel.

Qatar expects six percent economic growth in 2014 and a 3.7 percent increase in this year's expenditure, rising to 218.4 billion riyals (\$59.977 billion).

The tiny OPEC member state holds the world's third-largest gas reserves and produces around 77 million tons of liquefied natural gas per year, making it the world's largest supplier.

US, Dutch men try to deposit billions in fake bonds in Vatican bank

ROME (AFP) -- Vatican police on Saturday apprehended an American and a Dutch man who were trying to deposit billions of euros and US dollars in fake bonds in the Vatican bank. The men were stopped by the police when they approached one of the guarded gates at the Vatican and asked to be let through to the bank.

The bonds were discovered in a briefcase they were carrying and the men were

Skepticism as Cuba OKs law to lure foreign investors

MIAMI — A new law approved by the Cuban National Assembly on Saturday designed to lure more foreign investment to the island nation has many wondering what it will mean.

The new law has Cuba observers wondering whether it will energize the country's struggling economy, whether it represents a step from the country's centrally planned economy to a more capitalist one, and whether the success of foreign companies there

will prompt American businesses to push for a change in the U.S. embargo on the Communist country.

According to doubtful observer it's a system that's not transparent, there's no legal system that protects foreign investment.

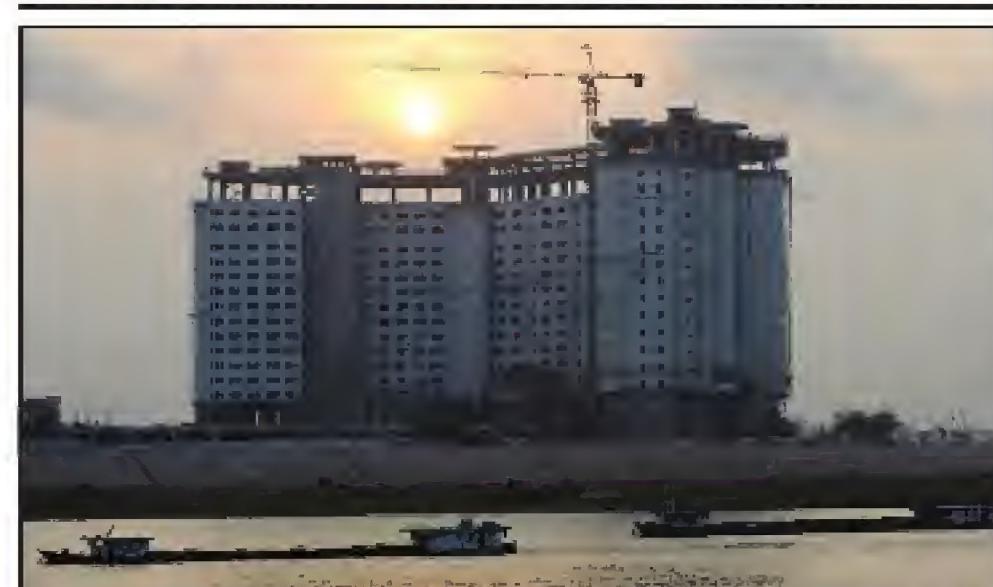
While Cuba has allowed foreign investors from across the globe to participate in selective, carefully monitored enterprises, its government has permitted those companies to maintain only 49% ownership of their operations.

Under the new law — endorsed by President Raúl Castro and approved Saturday by the Cuban parliament — foreign companies will be able to hold a 100% ownership in ventures. For companies that engage in joint ventures, the profits tax will be cut from 30% to 15%, and most investors would be exempt from paying that tax for at least eight years.

The law also would allow the free transfer of profits and dividends off the island without additional tax and ensure legal protections for companies engaged in disputes.

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

CALL	EAST	DID
ABEE	mite	eke
RING	PREP	LEA
DEDUCT	MICA	
MUIR	DOWEL	
REFEREE	SAVE	
ACE	EDNAS	RES
SHAG	DRIVERS	
HOSES	SORE	
TROT	USEDUP	
III	NOES	RISE
VON	JANE	EVAN
ENG	ADDS	DAFT



PHNOM PENH -- The sun rises over a hotel building under construction in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Southeast Asian nation, written off as a failed state after the devastating 1975-79 Khmer Rouge regime and years of civil war, has mainly used garment exports and tourism to help improve its economy. (AFP PHOTO)

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 03/30/2014	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.59	1.61	1.63
Britain	GBP	2.90	2.95	3.01
Switzerland	CHF	200.99	201.71	202.51
Netherlands	EUR	242.84	245.05	247.52
Sweden	SEK	26.46	27.18	27.98
Denmark	DKK	31.87	32.59	33.39
Norway	NOK	28.75	29.47	30.27
Japan (per 10,000)	JPY	172.35	173.92	175.67

All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.

COMICS



WELL, I'M GOING TO STAND RIGHT HERE UNTIL I REMEMBER WHY I CAME IN HERE!

I KNOW I CAME IN HERE FOR A REASON.

YOU'RE BLOCKING THE DOORWAY, EARL.

OH, SORRY.



WHY IS IT THAT WALKING THROUGH A DOOR MAKES ME FORGET WHY I CAME INTO THE ROOM?

NOW, WHAT DID I COME IN HERE FOR?

BY MELL LAZARUS

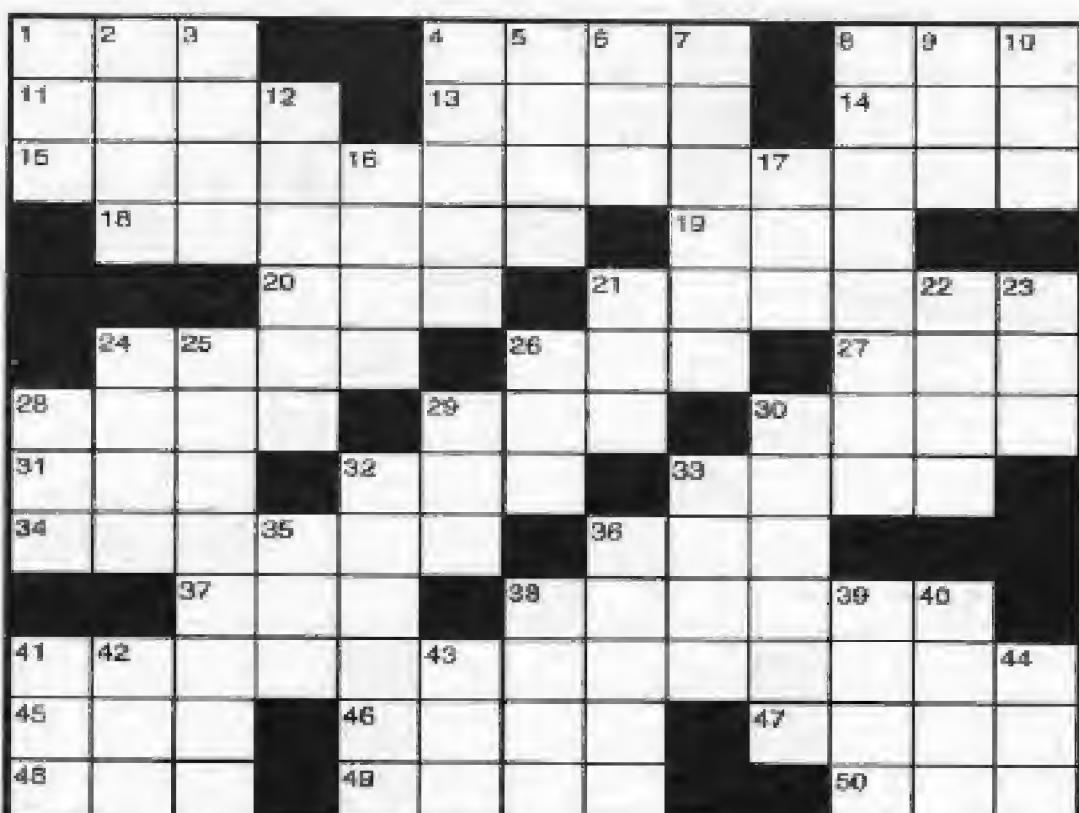
MOMMA
I HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR DINNER, MOTHER HOBBS!

SHALL WE PLAY SOME SCRABBLE?
OR CARDS, MOMMA?
GOOD IDEA, THOMAS...

-IT'S NERVE-WRACKING JUST TO SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR THE HEARTBURN TO START...

CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- Printer's need
- Swear
- Former airline
- Not bad
- Name's first letter (abbr.)
- Reel's companion
- Rungs on the ladder of success
- Think highly of
- Went quickly
- Mogul Turner
- Ark measurements
- Kind of dorm
- Bunny's leap
- Musical

twosome

- Sing high praises
- Club
- Numerous
- Supper morsel
- Dear old __
- Actress Pinkett Smith
- Tropical flower
- Total failure
- "__ Miss Brooks"
- Calgary's country
- High school elective, perhaps (2 wds.)
- Drink cooler
- Heal

47. Shade trees

- Two make a qt.
- Golf gadgets
- Actor Ayres
- "Here __ again!" (2 wds.)
- Keystone __
- Referenced
- "E pluribus __"
- Misdeed
- Agitate (2 wds.)
- __ and Tobago
- Worry

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- Product placements
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- Oboe accessory
- File label
- Barracks fixture
- casserole
- Tofu ingredient
- Author John Dickson __
- Results
- Owned
- 18th-century card game
- Spoiled
- "__ Bovary"
- Straight-forward
- Ellen Page film
- Shade of color
- Certain Scandianavians
- Crux
- Pickle herb
- Highest point
- Upper leg joint
- Tenth mo.
- Billiards stick
- Compass pt.

DOWN**SOLUTION**

9	6	1	2	7	8	3	5	4
9	4	5	3	1	6	8	2	7
9	7	2	4	5	9	6	1	3
2	8	3	5	7	6	4	9	1
5	9	7	6	4	1	2	8	6
6	1	4	3	2	9	5	7	2
1	2	6	9	8	7	4	3	5
7	3	8	5	1	6	2	9	4
4	5	9	7	6	8	1	0	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Care Center
Tel: 5696910

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Telephone
Numbers

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Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel.5274000
EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HQS
Telephone 100

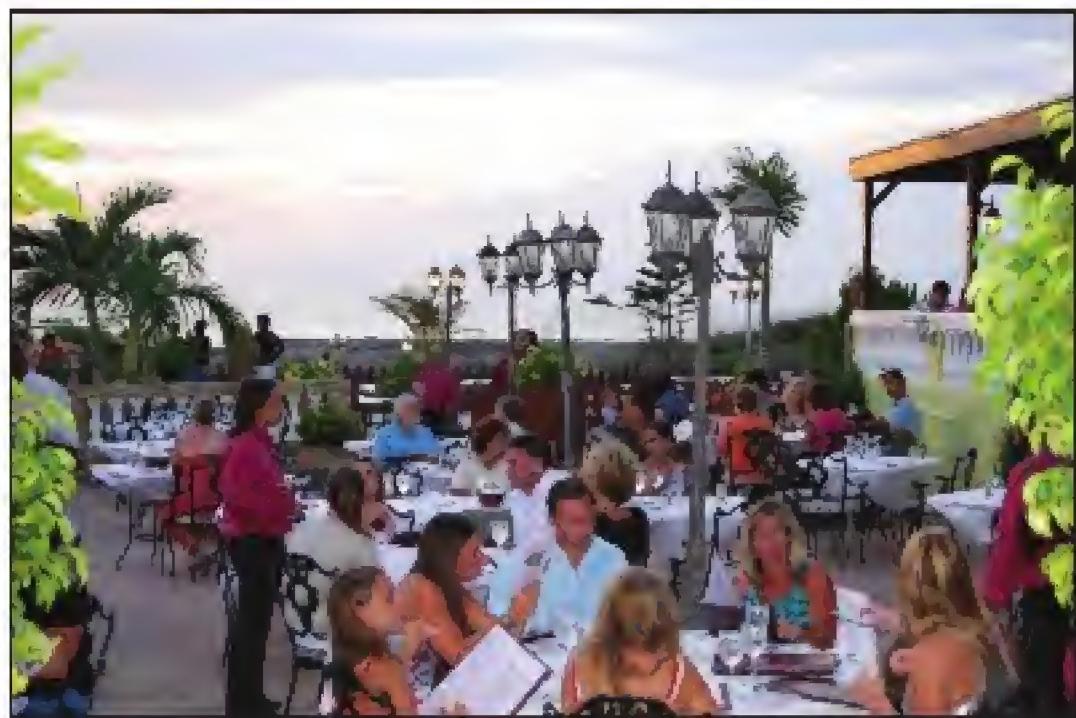
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Sudoku

6			3				4	
8			9				3	
5			4	8	9			
			3			4		
	8	2				7	6	
		1			5			
	6		5	4			3	
7			1			6		6
4			7			8		

Excellent dining, charming ambiance and a breathtaking view found only at *La Trattoria El Faro Blanco*



The Outside Deck

-- Over twenty years ago, a very clever person had the idea of placing a cozy little restaurant on the top of the cliff adjacent to the California Lighthouse, offering the most stunning view of Aruba imaginable. La Trattoria el Faro Blanco took over the location some years ago, and

the restaurant's quaint trappings, superb selection and amenable staff has made it a one of the island's most popular dining spots ever since.

Savoring the sight of a spectacular Aruban sunset and the tiered layout of the eatery also makes it the ideal spot for marking a special occasion, such as an anniver-

sary or a marriage proposal, as well as a perfect venue for weddings or a celebratory party. An extensive and diverse menu and wine list allows those planning a special festivity will be able to devise a memorable event and management is ready and willing to help you stay within your budget.

Many have taken note of this singular location as the place to go for that memorable romantic meal, and their reservation staff reports a waiting list for the rail tables that offer the best unobstructed view, recommending reservations well in advance if this is important to you.

The restaurant is now open from early in the day for refreshments, and is the perfect lunch stop while touring, serving from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, after which visitors can enjoy a light snack from

their Pizza Mini Menu until 6:00 PM when they officially open for dinner, until 11:00 PM.

All these aspects of charming surroundings, dining al fresco with a breathtaking view

(or in their enclosed air-conditioned dining room, if you prefer) and fine food makes La Trattoria El Faro the single dining experience that must not be missed be-

fore departing Aruba.

Reservations can be made by calling 586-0786 or 586-0787, or via e-mail link at their website, www.aruba-latrattoria.com, where you can peruse their latest menu, as Chef Alberto is always devising some tasty new specialty to take advantage of what is fresh for the season.

Osso Buco with Risotto bon



Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they feel secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the ac-



tion, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway, we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of

Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area, also restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold

Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance

this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

NBA: Sixers dodge losing record with big win

PHILADELPHIA (AFP) - The Philadelphia 76ers avoided a record-setting 27th straight National Basketball Association loss with a dominating 123-98 home victory over the struggling Detroit Pistons on Saturday.

Thaddeus Young finished with 21 points, six rebounds and three assists for the 76ers, who came into the contest having lost 18 straight at home and 26 overall, equaling the longest losing streak in league history.

"I am happy for the players and I am happy for the fans," said Sixers coach Brett Brown. "I am real happy for the players."

The Cleveland Cavaliers set the NBA record with 26 straight losses in 2010-11.

The Sixers' 26 losses also matched the record for the longest losing skid of any major North American professional sports team.

The NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers lost 26 straight contests from September 12, 1976 to December 4, 1977.

Michael Carter-Williams helped pace the attack in front of the crowd of 17,438 by scoring 21 points for the 76ers, who shot 52 percent from the field. Philadelphia also ended their franchise-record 18-game losing home streak at the Wells Fargo Center arena.

Carter-Williams said the key was sharing the ball.



"We tried to concentrate on every single possession," said Carter-Williams, who also had seven rebounds, four assists and four steals. "Play smart and just do the right things and use each other."

Henry Sims tallied 16 points with seven rebounds and Hollis Thompson scored 14 points on four-of-four shooting from beyond the arc in the win.

The Sixers management has been insisting all along they are in a rebuilding mode.

At the trade deadline they dumped players by sending Evan Turner, Spencer Hawes and Lavoy Allen packing.

Some Philadelphia fans have accused them of deliberately losing matches this season in order to get a prime pick in the entry draft.

Brown said he is relieved that the team didn't set the record for futility.

Greg Monroe finished with 20 points and 10 rebounds for

the Pistons, who have lost 18 of their last 22 games.

Rodney Stuckey had 17 points and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 16 in the loss.

Meanwhile in San Antonio,

Tim Duncan had 12 points as the San Antonio Spurs beat New Orleans 96-80 for their 17th straight victory to match the longest win streak in franchise history.

Marco Belinelli scored 18 points on four-of-five shooting from three-point range for the Spurs, who also have the longest winning run in the NBA this season. Duncan also had eight rebounds.

"This team has a really high basketball IQ and everyone knows that," said Spurs forward Austin Daye. "I feel blessed to be in this situation."

It is the longest win streak for the Spurs since the 1995-96 team won 17 consecutive games.

Football: Players get Uruguayan game called off amid security concerns

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Uruguay's Football Association (AUF) on Sunday called off the first division match between Penarol and Miramar at the players' request amid security concerns at the legendary Centenario stadium.

Uruguayan president Jose Mujica ordered police to withdraw from the country's two main stadiums -- the Centenario and the Parque Central -- in the wake of violence between fans and security forces.

A joint statement issued by the Uruguayan Professional Footballers Association and stadium personnel said that they had "not been given the security conditions" and

would not participate in the match.

Mujica's measure comes after incidents marred Nacional's meeting with Argentine side Newell's Old Boys on Wednesday night in the Copa Libertadores, South America's leading club competition.

At the end of the game, which Newell's won 4-2, a group of home fans clashed with police, causing significant damage to the Centenario.

There were 40 arrests and dozens of police and fans were injured, while more than 700 seats were ripped out, but the manner of the police response is as much at the heart of the issue as the

concern at the hooliganism.

The move plunges the local football in a crisis just months ahead of the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, for which former winners Uruguay have qualified.

Other top-flight league fixtures planned for this weekend were set to go ahead.

In January 2013, football in Uruguay was suspended for 10 days following incidents at a friendly between Penarol and Nacional, who together dominate the domestic game.

In January, a Uruguayan court banned nine Nacional and Penarol players from attending or participating in games for 60 days after a fight in a friendly game.



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Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

Briefs:



MILAN (AFP) - Goals by Jose Callejon and Dries Mertens handed Napoli a stunning 2-0 win over champions Juventus and sparked some life into the Serie A title race on Sunday. Juventus had seen their 14-point lead cut back earlier in the day when Roma, in second with a game in hand, prevailed 2-0 at struggling Sassuolo. Juve now lead Roma by 11 points with Napoli, who have been chasing the second automatic Champions League qualifying spot, still third but six points behind Roma.



MIAMI (AFP) - Martina Hingis shrugged off her 33 years to partner Sabine Lisicki to the Miami WTA doubles title on Sunday in only the pair's second tournament together. The Swiss veteran and her German partner downed second seeded Russians Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina, 4-6, 6-4, 10-5. "It's very exciting," Hingis said after winning her first title since 2007. Hingis now has 38 WTA doubles titles to her name, having won 37 between 1995 and 2007. She is one of the greatest women's players of all-time, having won five grand slam singles titles. Hingis also claimed 43 WTA Tour singles crowns and was ranked No. 1 a number of times between 1997-2001. This is the third doubles title for Lisicki, who teamed up with Sam Stosur to win in Stuttgart in 2011 and Mona Barthel in 2013.

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EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

Baseball: Yankees icon Jeter set for 2014 farewell tour

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Japanese pitcher Masahiro Tanaka will have a close-up view of one of baseball's biggest stories in 2014 -- the final season of New York Yankees teammate Derek Jeter.

The iconic Yankees captain announced in February that his 20th season would be his last.

The club's acquisition of Tanaka -- a 25-year-old right-hander who was unbeaten last year in leading the Rakuten Eagles to the Japan Series crown -- was part of an off-season spending spree that they hope will help them send Jeter off with a sixth World Series title.

After an appetizer of a two-game series in Australia -- in which the Los Angeles Dodgers swept the Arizona Diamondbacks -- the regular-season banquet began in earnest with the Dodgers again in action on "Opening Night" Sunday against the San Diego Padres.

Today's "Opening Day" slate is highlighted by an interleague contest between the Texas Rangers and Philadelphia Phillies.

Even though the Yankees have loosened the purse strings after missing the playoffs last season, the Dodgers head into the season with the highest payroll in the major leagues -- a list the Yankees had topped since 1998.

The Dodgers overcame a stuttering start last year to steam to the National League West division title, but fell to the St. Louis Cardinals in the



NL Championship Series.

Dodgers manager Don Mattingly, whose job appeared in jeopardy last June, instead has inked a new contract.

But question marks remain, with outfielder Matt Kemp's long-term fitness still a concern and two-time Cy Young Award-winner Clayton Kershaw scratched from his scheduled start on Sunday because of inflammation in a back muscle.

The Dodgers will need left-handed ace Kershaw -- who signed a seven-year, \$215 million (156 million euros) deal in January -- to stay healthy if they are to make the most of the rest of their talent, which includes

the brilliant but unpredictable Yasiel Puig.

Although the Cardinals came up short against the Boston Red Sox in the World Series last year, St. Louis remains the team to beat in the National League.

After Carlos Beltran's departure as a free agent, Allen Craig will take over right field, and the Cards have 21-year-old prospect Oscar Taveras waiting in the wings.

Matt Carpenter will again leadoff for the Cardinals and with Beltran gone, the Cardinals moved to boost their offense with the addition of shortstop Jhonny Peralta.

Peralta was part of the Biogenesis doping scandal last season, but before his

50-game ban was hitting .303 with 11 home runs, 30 doubles and 55 RBI for Detroit.

The biggest threat to St. Louis's NL Championship aspirations could come from the Washington Nationals, who boast the best rotation in baseball, with Stephen Strasburg, Gio Gonzalez, Jordan Zimmermann and the recently acquired Doug Fister.

The Pittsburgh Pirates, with reigning NL Most Valuable Player Andrew McCutchen, will try to build on their outstanding 2013 campaign, which saw them back in the playoffs after a two-decade drought.

In Milwaukee, all eyes will be on Ryan Braun the former NL MVP who will be returning from a 65-game doping suspension.

Braun was among more than a dozen players caught up in the Biogenesis scandal.

No one took a harder fall than Yankees superstar Alex Rodriguez, banned for all of 2014.

Rodriguez's exile shifts the spotlight in the Bronx to Jeter and his revamped supporting cast, which in addition to Tanaka includes catcher Brian McCann, Beltran, Jacoby Ellsbury.

The new additions will help counter the departure of longtime closing pitcher Mariano Rivera and five-time All-Star second baseman Robinson Cano, who left for Seattle after failing to gain a longterm contract from the Yankees.

The key for the aging Yan-

kees will be staying healthy. The same is true for 38-year-old World Series MVP David Ortiz in Boston, where the Red Sox last year made an emotional run to their third World Series crown in 10 seasons.

Despite Boston's status as the reigning champions, the Detroit Tigers again look to be the class of a wide-open American League.

Detroit's first-year manager Brad Ausmus will have at his disposal a formidable starting pitching staff that includes Justin Verlander, 2013 Cy Young winner Max Scherzer and Anibal Sanchez as well as the offensive power of Miguel Cabrera.

Cabrera signed an eight-year contract extension on Friday that will keep the superstar slugger in Detroit through 2023 for a reported record-setting \$292 million (212 million euros).

The teams challenging the Tigers will include the Texas Rangers, who lured Prince Fielder away from Detroit and also nabbed prized South Korean free agent Choo Shin-Soo.

The offensive tandem of Fielder and Choo should provide plenty of support for a Rangers pitching rotation that includes Japanese ace Yu Darvish.

However, the Rangers were already facing injury trouble, with second baseman Jurickson Profar sidelined by a shoulder injury and Darvish pulled from the season-opener with a stiff neck.

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Tennis: Djokovic routs Nadal to win fourth Miami Master

MIAMI (AFP) - Six-time Grand Slam title winner Novak Djokovic claimed his fourth Miami Masters crown with a dominating straight sets win over world number one Rafael Nadal on Sunday.

Second seed Djokovic cruised to a 6-3, 6-3 win in the men's final of the combined ATP and WTA Tour hardcourt tournament.

Djokovic, who benefitted from two walkovers, didn't drop a set winning his third Miami title in four years and fourth in total to add to triumphs in 2007, 2011, and 2012.

Djokovic clinched the victory on his first championship point, capping a long rally with a clever volley that landed in the open court at the Crandon Park Tennis Center. The 26-year-old Serbian had a relatively easy time beating Nadal. His serve was bigger and his defence stronger as he came in with the perfect game plan to collect the \$787,000 (572,000 euros) winner's cheque. He blasted five aces, won 30 of 35 points on his first serve and had no double faults in the 83-minute contest. Djokovic captured his second straight Masters event title having won two weeks ago in Indian Wells. Nadal, who has won two titles in 2014 in Doha and Rio de Janeiro, had two aces and won just 59 percent of his first-serve points. Djokovic's route to the final did include a 7-5, 6-3 win over defending champion Andy Murray where he benefitted from a blown call when he claimed he didn't realize he had broken the rules by sticking his racquet across the net to hit a shot. Sunday was just the second time the top two players in the world have faced each other in the Miami final. In 1995, Andre Agassi squared off against Pete Sampras.



\$10 million Dubai World Cup



DUBAI (AFP) - Brazilian jockey Silvestre De Sousa (R) celebrates as he crosses the finish line on African Story, the horse of the Ruler of Dubai, Mohammad bin Rashid al-Maktoum, to win the Dubai World Cup, the world's richest horse race, at the Meydan race track in the Gulf Emirate on Sunday. African Story swooped on front-running Mukhadram to win the 19th renewal of the \$10 million Dubai World Cup, in the process breaking the track record with his winning time of 2min 01.61 sec.